



CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS DEPARTMENT OF

PUBLIC SAFETY

N E W S L E T T E R

VOLUME 2
#8
DEC 2014

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Hello, everyone!

It is certainly my hope that this newsletter finds you doing well.

On December 11, we recognized 66 individuals for outstanding service to the city of Indianapolis. The Department of Public Safety is quickly establishing a national reputation of excellence. This is because of you.

Because of you, we lead the nation in our new data-driven approach to the systemic issues that face our city, the proactive way we are handling the growth of heroin, the efficient and effective businesslike approach, first-line supervision training, and counseling services that are available to all our first responders.

This represents just a few of your accomplishments and I am humbled by your work, dedication, and integrity.

Thank you for all you've done in 2014 and all you continue to do each and every day. From my family to all of you, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

God Bless and keep you safe // Troy



*Happy Holidays from the
DPS Director's Office*

*Troy, Valerie, Brian,
Al, Chrissy and Curt*

Outstanding contributions highlighted at DPS Awards

The Indy Public Safety Foundation on December 11 hosted the second-annual Department of Public Safety Recognition of Excellence Ceremony, presented by Old National Bank.

The event highlighted the outstanding efforts of more than 60 individuals, organizations and companies who were recognized for their work in support of Indianapolis public safety in 2014.

"We honored an elite group of men and women who have gone above and beyond for the friends and neighbors they serve here in Indianapolis," said Director of Public Safety Troy Riggs. "None of these people do what they do for recognition. They do it because they care deeply for our city and for the people who live, work and visit here."

A total of 66 awards spanning nine categories were presented during the event, which was presented by Old National Bank -- the newest supporter of the Indy Public Safety Foundation.

"Old National is proud to support the Department of Public Safety and this important event to recognize and thank those who protect and serve our community by putting their lives on the line for us every day," said Randy Reichmann, Regional CEO, Indianapolis Region.

"We appreciate the efforts of these first responders to help make this community a better one. We also appreciate their families for their support and want to be of assistance to them when they need it. This was our chance to join others throughout our community in saying thank you and keep up the good work."

Employees from the Department of Public Safety and the City of Indianapolis were honored as part of the program, along with members of the Indianapolis community. Indianapolis Fire Department Captain Dave Harman was selected as the Excellence in Government Employee of the Year.

The Indianapolis Department of Public Safety is comprised of eight divisions and approximately 3,200 employees.

For a complete list of winners in all categories, please click [here](#).



Dennis Papenmeier named new chief of ACC

The Department of Public Safety announced December 17 it has tabbed Dennis Papenmeier to be the next chief of Indianapolis Animal Care and Control (IACC).

Papenmeier, who has contributed nearly 20 years of service to various roles in city government, currently works as special projects manager for the Department of Code Enforcement and serves on the board of Friends of Indianapolis Animal Care and Control.

"We're pleased to bring Dennis into the fold as our new Animal Care and Control chief," said Public Safety Director Troy Riggs.

"We were deliberate in our search for a new leader for the division because we wanted someone who is truly committed to the Indianapolis animal welfare community and is also committed to stepping up the enforcement of animal care and control ordinances within the city. We found that in Dennis and look forward to moving IACC further forward."



Papenmeier brings a wealth of experiences from within city government to his new role as the chief of Animal Care and Control, having worked within townships, the Department of Public Works and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services. Papenmeier has always placed a high value on community-wide grassroots outreach and plans to further that effort in his new role.

"Director Riggs and Deputy Director Valerie Washington have worked closely with IACC over the past two years to improve its operation and the quality of care for our city's animals, and I look forward to continuing that effort as we go forward as a team," said Papenmeier.

"My commitment to the Friends of Indianapolis Animal Care and Control board over the past year or so has allowed me to begin to develop strong relationships within the animal welfare community and that will be a great asset to me in this new role, as well."

Papenmeier will join IACC as chief Dec. 29.



Homeland Security receives prestigious award from Mobilizer Magazine

The Department of Homeland Security received a 2014 Field Service Mobilizer Award from Mobilizer Magazine during an awards ceremony last month in Ft. Lauderdale.

DHS received the award for improving how first responders react to high-level threats, through the deployment of the Haystax DS7 mobile app for Android and iOS. Chief Gary Coons led the project. The solution is being used by members of the bomb squad, SWAT team and intelligence group. Through real-time trends, social media activity and infrastructure information, the tool provides what is needed to all responders to make better, faster decisions.



Have a question, suggestion or comment to share with Director Riggs or the Department? Please e-mail it to us at:

dps@indy.gov



IFD Participates in Indy Honor Flight

by Captain Rita Reith

What a day we had October 18 on the Indy Honor Flight to see the WWII Memorial.

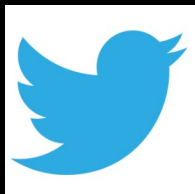
The experience was overwhelming to say the least, not only for the veterans but for the firefighters, as well. Our day was highlighted with a three-hour visit from Brigadier General Eric Smith, who spent the time with our group at the memorial. BGen Smith was generous, kind, engaging and personable and the veterans were quite delighted.

While at the memorial one of the Vets was interviewed by PBS for a documentary about veterans. Several of the other special moments during the day were the military greetings at Reagan International Airport, the Indy Honor Flight participation in the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the many handshakes, hugs and kisses from a thankful public, and the big band and dancing that arrived to send our veterans back to Indianapolis.

"Operation Mail Call" occurred during the flight home and there was not a dry eye on the plane.



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"Indianapolis Department of Public Safety"



Excellence in Government Award Winners

DPS honored six deserving employees for their hard work at the September "Excellence in Government" luncheon. They, and their guests, were treated to lunch hosted by and sponsored by California Pizza Kitchen.



Linda Bailey, IMPD



Carol Luken, IFD



Katherine McAteer, IEMS



Bev Price, DPS Finance

***HONORED BUT
NOT PICTURED***

John Snitko, IMPD

***HONORED BUT
NOT PICTURED***

Sarah Wallace, IEMS

Nominate Continuous Excellence Today

<http://bit.ly/excellence-in-gov>

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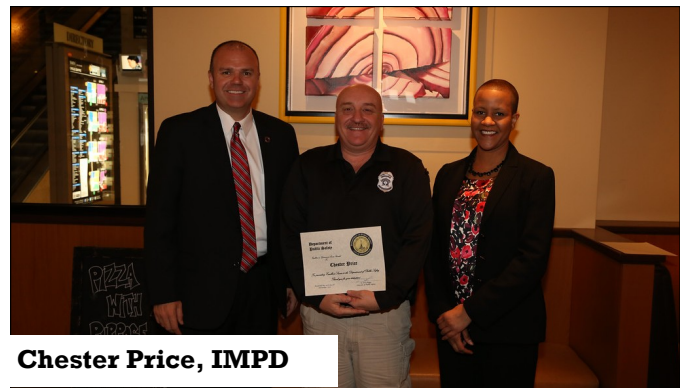
Tim Dowdy, IMPD

***HONORED BUT
NOT PICTURED***

Dave Harman, IFD

***HONORED BUT
NOT PICTURED***

Aaron Herring, IEMS



Chester Price, IMPD



John Wall, IMPD

***HONORED BUT
NOT PICTURED***

Bob Zeronik, IFD

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Decision House 2014 connects with 1,000 Indy youth

by Lori White

The Indy Public Safety Foundation and a DPS-led multi-agency team hosted the 2nd Annual Your Life Matters Decision House event on September 22.

Thank you to the Pacers Foundation and Bankers Life Fieldhouse for hosting nearly 1,000 area freshman students who participated in decision-making exercises and were audience to a life-changing live extrication and dramatic life choices vignettes presentation.



We will be extending the invitation to all Marion County schools and doughnut county schools next year to encompass a truly regional approach to make this interactive learning tool available to more students.

We especially thank Mayor Gregory A. Ballard, Indy Public Safety Foundation Chairperson Melissa Proffitt Reese, Director Troy Riggs, Chief Rick Hite, Pacer legend Darnell Hillman, and current Pacer standout and local talent George Hill for sharing their time and their testimony of how good decision making has led them to a blessed place in life.



The Your Life Matters Decision House team also thanks Pacers Foundation and Bankers Life Fieldhouse for the very generous donation of venue. We could not have had a better lunch partner than Firehouse Subs — thank you! Our thanks to Progressive Design Apparel for logo design which appeared on the students' sling bags and staff t-shirts.

Finally, thank you to the many agencies — IFD, IMPD, IEMS, MCSO, MCPO, DHS, CERT, and the WHY2Y Initiative — whose staffs worked tirelessly to make this special event happen for the students.



Watch Director Riggs' message to this year's Your Life Matters Decision House attendees. [Click here.](#)

Next month's issue: A deeper dive into the new [DPS focus area initiative](#)

*** What the [data](#) tells us**

*** What we [plan](#) to do in 2015**

*** What we will [accomplish](#)**

Director for a Day - Leadership Indianapolis

The Department of Public Safety continued its “Director for a Day” program this fall, playing host to a group of 25 guests from Leadership Indianapolis, whose mission is to develop community leaders that can address issues and opportunities facing Indianapolis — both today and in the future.



Leadership Indianapolis experienced the full spectrum of Public Safety during their visit on October 8, including a some perspectives from IFD Chief Ernest V. Malone.

Director Riggs took a few minutes during the day to introduce Leadership Indianapolis to the new DPS focus area initiative, which launched the following day.



Shoot/don't shoot scenarios were part of the experience for the group, which embraced the opportunity to learn more about the amazing work done by our DPS employees.



Want to suggest a good Director for a Day?

Please e-mail us at: dps@indy.gov